

September 1, 2009

WASHINGTON, DC - On Tuesday, September 1, 2009, U.S. Rep. Michael Arcuri (NY-24) joined Norwich Police Chief Joseph Angelino and Norwich Mayor Joseph Maiurano to announce that the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) has awarded the City of Norwich \$288,188 in American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (Recovery Bill) funding to help prevent and combat crime, especially drug-related crime.

"As a former District Attorney, I know from experience how important it is for our police officers to have the funding and resources they need," **Arcuri said**, "During these tough economic times, these Recovery Bill funds will keep officers on the street and ensure that the Norwich Police Department has the tools necessary to fight drugs and drug-related crime. I will continue to fight to make sure our local law enforcement agencies have the resources they need to keep our communities safe."

"I am extremely pleased the Department of Justice agreed with our grant application and saw the need for assistance to law enforcement in Norwich," **Norwich Police Chief Joseph Angelino said**, "This money will go a long way to assist in staffing and purchase of much needed equipment to assist in lengthy investigations. This money will be used to fill a detective's position in the Norwich Police force."

DOJ's Bureau of Justice Assistance reviews applications and awards grants through the Recovery Act Rural Law Enforcement Assistance program on a competitive basis. The City of Norwich applied for funding to address recent documented increases in drug- and firearm-related crimes. The City will use these grant funds to pay the salary and benefits for a full-time, plain-clothes detective and also for the purchase of an unmarked patrol car and other equipment to further undercover operations.

The following elected officials and community leaders commented about this Recovery Bill funding announcement:

Norwich Mayor Joseph Maiurano said: "The City of Norwich places great value on Quality of Life and a big part of that marketing is our police force. Our police allow our citizens and visitors a feeling of safety. Not only does this help the city of Norwich, but this grant will enhance the greater Norwich area and Chenango County as a whole."

Sheriff Ernest Cutting said: "I am pleased to learn the Norwich Police Department received \$288,188, in Federal Stimulus money to combat rural drug related crimes. Law Enforcement here in Chenango County continues to place combating drug crimes at the forefront of our efforts. We will continue to support these efforts with all Law Enforcement agencies in Chenango County. This money will help aid the Norwich Police Department as they continue to move forward in staffing and purchasing the equipment necessary in this fight."

